



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Airpower Summary: 9 - 15 Oct 2011



### Air National Guard units provide top cover as U.S. transitions out of Iraq

Staff Sgt. Valerie Fleming, right, ordnance systems mechanic, 1st Lt. Joseph Baszynski, aircraft maintenance unit officer-in-charge, Master Sgt. Derek Harry, quality assurance, and other Airmen from the 125th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron arrive in Iraq Oct. 1, 2011. The squadron deployed in support of Operation New Dawn and will provide close air support for more than 40,000 troops leaving Iraq by the end of the year. The 125th EFS comprises F-16 Fighting Falcons, pilots, maintenance specialists and support personnel from the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 138th Fighter Wing in Tulsa, Okla., and the Ohio Air National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo, Ohio. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo)

inherent in every operation we undertake."

Since 1996, the 138th FW has deployed its F-16s 10 times in support of Operation Provide Comfort, Operation Northern and Southern Watch, Operation Iraqi Freedom and now Operation New Dawn. Many of these airmen have deployed several times together and some have known each other for as long as 30 years.

"Our squadron is truly expeditionary," said Poplin. "We received the call for this short-notice deployment and had everything packed and ready to go in a very short amount of time."

Normally, the unit is tasked to replace an existing F-16 squadron. For this deployment, however, they arrived at an empty facility, uninhabited for many years.

To read the full story and for more photos, visit <http://www.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123276290>.

**IRAQ --** The 125th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron recently arrived in country and is providing top cover for U.S. forces as they transition personnel and equipment out of Iraq.

The squadron comprises F-16 Fighting Falcons, pilots, maintenance specialists and support personnel from the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 138th Fighter Wing in Tulsa, Okla. The squadron also includes members from the Ohio Air National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing in Toledo, Ohio, and the Arizona Air National Guard's 160th Fighter Wing in Tucson, Ariz.

The unit went from non-existent to fully operational within nine days of arrival. Airmen overcame many obstacles and worked up to 17 hours a day to ensure facilities were ready to go when the jets arrived.

"We're providing close air support for more than 40,000 troops leaving Iraq by the end of the year," said Lt. Col. Rick Poplin, 125th EFS commander and Tulsa native. "During this historic undertaking to reposture personnel, equipment and bases, force protection remains

The Combined Forces Air Component Commander's airpower data for the week of 9 – 15 Oct 2011:

<b>Airpower Summary for the week of 9 - 15 Oct 2011</b>								
<b>Close Air Support</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Operation Enduring Freedom</b>	79	85	83	88	73	80	75	563
<b>Operation New Dawn</b>	14	12	16	12	14	14	22	104
<b>Weapons Releases</b>								
<b>OEF</b>	12	37	30	45	40	55	21	240
<b>OND</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>ISR</b>								
<b>OEF</b>	68	65	73	98	96	94	96	590
<b>OND</b>	24	22	26	24	26	25	27	174
<b>Combined Data</b>								
<b>Airlift Sorties</b>	167	150	186	164	172	164	169	1,172
<b>Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)</b>	573	637	862	618	621	661	518	4,490
<b>Airlift Passengers</b>	4,103	3,383	3,595	3,109	3,788	3,108	3,467	24,553
<b>Tanker Sorties</b>	64	59	63	62	56	56	56	416
<b>Fuel Offloaded (Thousands of Pounds)</b>	3,422	3,158	3,306	3,473	3,245	3,429	3,868	23,901
<b>Aircraft Refueled</b>	283	262	289	284	258	264	317	1,957
<b>PR/Medivac Sorties</b>	25	26	19	13	26	19	19	147
<b>Saves</b>	8	11	5	4	4	4	7	43
<b>Assist</b>	10	13	4	0	7	4	3	41

(To see the complete CFACC Airpower Statistics, current as of September 30, 2011, please visit:  
<http://www.afcent.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-111005-001.pdf>)

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